WRITING CONTENT 6th Grade 7th Grade 8th Grade

WR-M-1.1.0

Purpose/Audience: The writer establishes and maintains a focused purpose to communicate with an authentic audience by

- Narrowing the topic
- Choosing a perspective authentic to the writer (not contrived)
- · Presenting an idea or theme
- Analyzing and addressing the needs of the intended audience
- Adhering to the characteristics of the form
- Employing a suitable tone
- Allowing voice to emerge when appropriate

WR-M6-1.1.1

In Reflective Writing, the writer:

- Analyzes and describes skills, abilities, approaches, products, and goals
- Demonstrates knowledge of the intended audience
- Uses a suitable tone or appropriate voice

WR-M6-1.1.2

In Personal Expressive Writing, the writer:

- Communicates about the life experience of the writer by focusing on life events, relationships, or central ideas
- Utilizes the features of the selected form (e.g., personal narrative, personal memoir, personal essay)
- Conveys the significance of the event, relationship, or central idea
- Sustains point of view
- Sustains a suitable tone or appropriate voice

In Literary Writing, the writer:

- Communicates about the human condition
- Engages an audience by painting a picture, recreating a feeling, telling a story, capturing a moment, evoking an image, or showing an extraordinary perception of the ordinary
- Conveys the significance of the writing to meet the reader's expectations

WR-M7-1.1.1

In Reflective Writing, the writer:

- Analyzes and describes skills, abilities, approaches, products, and goals
- Demonstrates knowledge of the intended audience
- Uses a suitable tone or appropriate voice

WR-M7-1.1.2

In Personal Expressive Writing, the writer:

- Communicates about the life experience of the writer by focusing on life events, relationships, or central ideas
- Utilizes the features of the selected form (e.g., personal narrative, personal memoir, personal essay)
- Conveys the significance of the event, relationship, or central idea
- Sustains point of view
- Sustains a suitable tone or appropriate voice

In Literary Writing, the writer:

- Communicates about the human condition
- Engages an audience by painting a picture, recreating a feeling, telling a story, capturing a moment, evoking an image, or showing an extraordinary perception of the ordinary
- Conveys the significance of the writing to meet the reader's expectations

WR-M8-1.1.1

In Reflective Writing, the writer:

- Analyzes and describes skills, abilities, approaches, products, and goals
- Demonstrates knowledge of the intended audience
- Uses a suitable tone or appropriate voice

WR-M8-1.1.2

In Personal Expressive Writing, the writer:

- Communicates about the life experience of the writer by focusing on life events, relationships, or central ideas
- Utilizes the features of the selected form (e.g., personal narrative, personal memoir, personal essay)
- Conveys the significance of the event, relationship, or central idea
- Sustains point of view
- Sustains a suitable tone or appropriate voice

In Literary Writing, the writer:

- Communicates about the human condition
- Engages an audience by painting a picture, recreating a feeling, telling a story, capturing a moment, evoking an image, or showing an extraordinary perception of the ordinary
- Conveys the significance of the writing to meet the reader's expectations

DRAFT – Middle School Writing Core Content for Assessment – DRAFT Assessment Contractor Version

DRAFT -- March 30, 2005

Utilizes features of the selected form (e.g.,	Utilizes features of the selected form (e.g.,	Utilizes features of the selected form (e.g.,
short story, play/script, poem)	short story, play/script, poem)	short story, play/script, poem)
Sustains point of view	Sustains point of view	Sustains point of view
Sustains a suitable tone or appropriate voice	Sustains a suitable tone or appropriate voice	 Sustains a suitable tone or appropriate voice
Adopts a fictional perspective in literary	Adopts a fictional perspective in literary	 Adopts a fictional perspective in literary
writing when appropriate	writing when appropriate	writing when appropriate
WR-M6-1.1.3	WR-M7-1.1.3	WR-M8-1.1.3
In Transactive Writing, the writer:	In Transactive Writing, the writer:	In Transactive Writing, the writer:
 Conveys a purpose through informing, 	 Conveys a purpose through informing, 	 Conveys a purpose through informing,
persuading or analyzing	persuading or analyzing	persuading or analyzing
Develops an effective angle to achieve	Develops an effective angle to achieve	 Develops an effective angle to achieve
purpose	purpose	purpose
Communicates as an informed writer to	Communicates as an informed writer to	 Communicates as an informed writer to
provide new insight	provide new insight	provide new insight
Clarifies what the reader should know, do, or	Clarifies what the reader should know, do, or	Clarifies what the reader should know, do, or
believe as a result of reading the piece	believe as a result of reading the piece	believe as a result of reading the piece
Utilizes text features of the selected form	Utilizes text features of the selected form	Utilizes text features of the selected form
Sustains a suitable tone	Sustains a suitable tone	Sustains a suitable tone
Allows voice to emerge when appropriate	Allows voice to emerge when appropriate	Allows voice to emerge when appropriate
WR-M-1 2 0		

WR-M-1.2.0

Idea Development/Support: The writer develops and supports main ideas and deepens the audience's understanding of purpose by using

- Logical, justified, and suitable explanation
- Relevant elaboration
- Related connections or reflections

Idea development strategies appropriate for the form

• Idea development strategies appropriate for the form		
WR-M6-1.2.1	WR-M7-1.2.1	WR-M8-1.2.1
In Reflective Writing, the writer:	In Reflective Writing, the writer:	In Reflective Writing, the writer:
Describes own skills, strategies, and processes	Describes own skills, strategies, and processes	 Describes own skills, strategies, and processes
Analyzes own decisions	Analyzes own decisions	Analyzes own decisions
Evaluates own strengths and areas for	Evaluates own strengths and areas for	Evaluates own strengths and areas for
growth	growth	growth
Supports claims about self	Supports claims about self	Supports claims about self
WR-M6-1.2.2	WR-M7-1.2.2	WR-M8-1.2.2
In Personal Expressive/Literary Writing, the	In Personal Expressive/Literary Writing, the	In Personal Expressive/Literary Writing, the
writer:	writer:	writer:
Conveys theme/main idea through use of literary elements appropriate to the genre:	Conveys theme/main idea through use of literary elements appropriate to the genre:	Conveys theme/main idea through use of literary elements appropriate to the genre:
Develops characters (fictional/non-fictional) through	Develops characters (fictional/non-fictional) through	Develops characters (fictional/non-fictional) through
(d.d.r.d.r.r.d.r.r.d.r) tirreagri	(monorial nonorial) tinoagri	(c.c.r.awnon notional) tinoagn

DRAFT - Middle School Writing Core Content for Assessment - DRAFT **Assessment Contractor Version**

DRAFT -- March 30, 2005

thoughts, emotions, actions, descriptions, or dialogue when appropriate
Develops plot/story line

- Creates an appropriate setting, mood, scene, image, feeling, or story line
- Incorporates literary or poetic devices (e.g., simile, metaphor, personification) when appropriate
- Conveys reflection or insight
- Evokes a response

WR-M6-1.2.3

In Transactive Writing, the writer:

- Includes relevant information to clarify and justify a specific purpose
- Develops a deliberate angle with support (e.g., facts, examples, reasons, comparisons, diagrams, charts, other visuals)
- Provides explanations to support the writer's purpose
- Uses research to support ideas with facts and opinions
- Uses persuasive techniques (e.g., bandwagon, emotional appeal, testimonial, expert opinion) when appropriate

thoughts, emotions, actions, descriptions, or dialogue when appropriate

- Develops plot/story line appropriate to the form
- Creates an appropriate setting, mood, scene. image, feeling, or story line
- Incorporates literary or poetic devices (e.g., simile, metaphor, personification) when appropriate
- Conveys reflection or insight
- Evokes a response

WR-M7-1.2.3

In Transactive Writing, the writer:

- Includes relevant information to clarify and justify a specific purpose
- Develops a deliberate angle with support (e.g., facts, examples, reasons, comparisons, diagrams, charts, other visuals)
- Provides explanations to support the writer's purpose
- Uses research to support ideas with facts and opinions
- Uses persuasive techniques (e.g., bandwagon, emotional appeal, testimonial, expert opinion) when appropriate

thoughts, emotions, actions, descriptions, or dialogue when appropriate

- Develops plot/story line appropriate to the form
- Creates an appropriate setting, mood, scene. image, feeling, or story line
- Incorporates literary or poetic devices (e.g., simile, metaphor, personification) when appropriate
- Conveys reflection or insight
- Evokes a response

WR-M8-1.2.3

In Transactive Writing, the writer:

- Includes relevant information to clarify and justify a specific purpose
- Develops a deliberate angle with support (e.g., facts, examples, reasons, comparisons, diagrams, charts, other visuals)
- Provides explanations to support the writer's purpose
- Uses research to support ideas with facts and opinions
- Uses persuasive techniques when appropriate (e.g., bandwagon, emotional appeal, testimonial, expert opinion) when appropriate

WR-M-1.3.0

Organization: The writer creates unity and coherence to accomplish the focused purpose by

- **Engaging the audience**
- Establishing a context for reading when appropriate
- Placing ideas and support in a meaningful order
- Guiding the reader through the piece with transitions and transitional elements
- Providing effective closure

WR-M6-1.3.1	WR-M7-1.3.1	WR-M8-1.3.1
In Reflective Writing, the writer:	In Reflective Writing, the writer:	In Reflective Writing, the writer:
Engages the interest of the reader	Engages the interest of the reader	Engages the interest of the reader

Bold – State Assessment Content Statement

DRAFT – Middle School Writing Core Content for Assessment – DRAFT Assessment Contractor Version

- Places ideas and details in meaningful order Places
- Uses a variety of transitions between ideas and details to guide the reader
- Concludes effectively

WR-M6-1.3.2

In Personal Expressive/Literary Writing, the writer:

- Engages the interest of the reader
- Places ideas and details in meaningful order
- Employs organizational devices (e.g., foreshadowing, flashback) when appropriate
- Uses a variety of transitions or transitional elements between ideas and details to guide the reader
- Uses paragraphs correctly and effectively
- Arranges poetic stanzas in a way that enhances the meaning through the use of white space, line breaks, and shape
- Concludes effectively

WR-M6-1.3.3

In Transactive Writing, the writer:

- Provides a context for reading
- Organizes in the accepted format of the genre
- Develops an appropriate text structure (e.g., cause/effect, problem/solution, question/answer, comparison/contrast, description, sequence) to achieve purpose
- Places ideas and details in a logical, meaningful order by using a variety of transitions or transitional elements between ideas and details
- Uses paragraphs effectively
- Uses text features (e.g., subheadings, bullets, fonts, white space, layout, charts, diagrams, labels, pictures, captions) when appropriate
- Concludes effectively

Places ideas and details in meaningful order

- Uses a variety of transitions between ideas and details to guide the reader
- Concludes effectively

WR-M7-1.3.2

In Personal Expressive/Literary Writing, the writer:

- Engages the interest of the reader
- Places ideas and details in meaningful order
- Employs organizational devices (e.g., foreshadowing, flashback) when appropriate
- Uses a variety of transitions or transitional elements between ideas and details to guide the reader
- Uses paragraphs correctly and effectively
- Arranges poetic stanzas in a way that enhances the meaning through the use of white space, line breaks, and shape
- Concludes effectively

WR-M7-1.3.3

In Transactive Writing, the writer:

- Provides a context for reading
- Organizes in the accepted format of the genre
- Develops an appropriate text structure (e.g., cause/effect, problem/solution, question/answer, comparison/contrast, description, sequence) to achieve purpose
- Places ideas and details in a logical, meaningful order by using a variety of transitions or transitional elements between ideas and details
- Uses paragraphs effectively
- Uses text features (e.g., subheadings, bullets, fonts, white space, layout, charts, diagrams, labels, pictures, captions) when appropriate
- Concludes effectively

DRAFT -- March 30. 2005

- Places ideas and details in meaningful order
- Uses a variety of transitions between ideas and details to guide the reader
- Concludes effectively

WR-M8-1.3.2

In Personal Expressive/Literary Writing, the writer:

- Engages the interest of the reader
- Places ideas and details in meaningful order
- Employs organizational devices (e.g., foreshadowing, flashback) when appropriate
- Uses a variety of transitions or transitional elements between ideas and details to guide the reader
- Uses paragraphs correctly and effectively
- Arranges poetic stanzas in a way that enhances the meaning through the use of white space, line breaks, and shape
- Concludes effectively

WR-M8-1.3.3

In Transactive Writing, the writer:

- Provides a context for reading
- Organizes in the accepted format of the genre
- Develops an appropriate text structure (e.g., cause/effect, problem/solution, question/answer, comparison/contrast, description, sequence) to achieve purpose
- Places ideas and details in a logical, meaningful order by using a variety of transitions or transitional elements between ideas and details
- Uses paragraphs effectively
- Uses text features (e.g., subheadings, bullets, fonts, white space, layout, charts, diagrams, labels, pictures, captions) when appropriate
- Concludes effectively

WRITING CONVENTIONS

WR-M-2.4.0

Sentence Structure: The writer creates sentences that are

- Varied in structure and length
- Constructed effectively
- Complete and correct unless using unconventional structures for effect when appropriate

• Complete and correct unless using unconventional structures for effect when appropriate		
WR-M6-2.4.1	WR-M7-2.4.1	WR-M8-2.4.1
In Reflective Writing, the writer:	In Reflective Writing, the writer:	In Reflective Writing, the writer:
Communicates in complete sentences or	Communicates in complete sentences or	Communicates in complete sentences or
uses unconventional structures when	uses unconventional structures when	uses unconventional structures when
appropriate	appropriate	appropriate
Uses sentences of various lengths and	Uses sentences of various lengths and	 Uses sentences of various lengths and
structures throughout the piece	structures throughout the piece	structures throughout the piece
WR-M6-2.4.2	WR-M7-2.4.2	WR-M8-2.4.2
In Personal Expressive/Literary Writing, the	In Personal Expressive/Literary Writing, the	In Personal Expressive/Literary Writing, the
writer:	writer:	writer:
Communicates in complete sentences or	Communicates in complete sentences or	Communicates in complete sentences or
uses unconventional structures for an	uses unconventional structures for an	uses unconventional structures for an
intentional effect when appropriate	intentional effect when appropriate	intentional effect when appropriate
Uses sentences of various lengths and	Uses sentences of various lengths and	Uses sentences of various lengths and
structures	structures	structures
Arranges words in meaningful order	 Arranges words in meaningful order 	Arranges words in meaningful order
Employs poetic line breaks effectively	 Employs poetic line breaks effectively 	Employs poetic line breaks effectively
WR-M6-2.4.3	WR-M7-2.4.3	WR-M8-2.4.3
In Transactive Writing, the writer:	In Transactive Writing, the writer:	In Transactive Writing, the writer:
Communicates in complete, concise	Communicates in complete, concise	Communicates in complete, concise
sentences or uses unconventional structures	sentences or uses unconventional structures	sentences or uses unconventional structures
when appropriate	when appropriate	when appropriate

WR-M-2.5.0

Language: The writer demonstrates

- Correct usage/grammar
- Concise use of language
- Effective word choice through strong verbs, precise nouns, concrete details, and sensory details
- Language appropriate to the content, purpose, and audience

WR-M6-2.5.1	WR-M7-2.5.1	WR-M8-2.5.1
In Reflective Writing, the writer:	In Reflective Writing, the writer:	In Reflective Writing, the writer:
Adheres to conventional guidelines for usage	Adheres to conventional guidelines for usage	Adheres to conventional guidelines for usage
and grammar	and grammar	and grammar
Uses language concisely	Uses language concisely	Uses language concisely

Bold – State Assessment Content Statement

DRAFT – Middle School Writing Core Content for Assessment – DRAFT Assessment Contractor Version

DRAFT -- March 30, 2005

Uses language appropriate to the content, purpose, and audience	Uses language appropriate to the content, purpose, and audience	Uses language appropriate to the content, purpose, and audience
WR-M6-2.5.2	WR-M7-2.5.2	WR-M8-2.5.2
In Personal Expressive/Literary Writing, the	In Personal Expressive/Literary Writing, the	In Personal Expressive/Literary Writing, the
writer:	writer:	writer:
Adheres to standard guidelines for usage and grammar or uses nonstandard for effect	Adheres to standard guidelines for usage and grammar or uses nonstandard for effect	Adheres to standard guidelines for usage and grammar or uses nonstandard for effect
Makes language choices based on economy,	Makes language choices based on economy,	Makes language choices based on economy,
precision, richness, and impact on the reader	precision, richness, and impact on the reader	precision, richness, and impact on the reader
Expresses ideas through descriptive or	Expresses ideas through descriptive or	Expresses ideas through descriptive or
figurative language	figurative language	figurative language
WR-M6-2.5.3	WR-M7-2.5.3	WR-M8-2.5.3
In Transactive Writing, the writer:	In Transactive Writing, the writer:	In Transactive Writing, the writer:
Adheres to standard guidelines for usage	Adheres to standard guidelines for usage	Adheres to standard guidelines for usage
and grammar	and grammar	and grammar
Communicates through language appropriate	Communicates through language appropriate	Communicates through language appropriate
to the purpose and audience (e.g.,	to the purpose and audience (e.g.,	to the purpose and audience (e.g.,
specialized vocabulary of the discipline,	specialized vocabulary of the discipline,	specialized vocabulary of the discipline,
	precise word choice)	precise word choice)
precise word choice)	precise word choice)	

WR-M-2.6.0

Correctness: The writer demonstrates

- Correct spelling
- Correct punctuation
- Correct capitalization
- Acceptable departure from standard correctness to enhance meaning when appropriate
- Appropriate documentation of ideas and information from outside sources (e.g., citing authors or titles within the text, listing sources)